

To: Hedman, Susan[hedman.susan@epa.gov]; CommDir@badriver-nsn.gov[CommDir@badriver-nsn.gov]
From: Jeff Silbert
Sent: Mon 8/4/2014 4:18:07 PM
Subject: Penokee mine and 404 c action

Dear Ms. Hedman and /or other EPA officials in charge or consultation of the Wisconsin Tribal request for the EPA to act to protect the waters of the extensive Bad River Watershed under authority of 404 C.

Thank you for you time and consideration.

Please give the Tribal requests under 404c the careful consideration and the affirmative response it deserves.

The Bad River Watershed is quite large and is described as a wonderfully intact, naturally regulated,interconnected and formed to receive,large amounts of moisture from the high Penokee Ridge coming off of Lake Superior.

The system receives this moisture and carefully infiltrates and disperses it into surface creeks and rivers,down through wetland bogs and aquafirs to replenish deep and connected artesian waters that form both the flow to the Bad River and supplies drinking water to the area.

If you step deeply in the Penokees,your boot print can fill with water.Rarely is seen such a water rich environment.

It is unreasonable to expect and defies common sense to believe that blowing the mountain apart to a depth of 1000' through layer after layer of water for a length of 4 miles to start[up to 22 miles proposed] would not have a completely devastating effect on the water supplies for ever.

Then if one factors in decades of toxic mine effluents of sulphides,mercury,asbestiform tailings,ultrafine particles sludging its way downhill to Lake Superior through the Bad River Reservation out to their wild rice in the world class Kakagon Sloughs,you will have nothing but destruction of all resources necessary for survival.This will render court affirmed Ojibwe treaty rights of hunting and gathering meaningless as well as destroy their homeland.

The water resources of Chequamegon Bay will be forever diminished and ruined.

Over 30 years ago this area acted in one voice to save the water from a Department of Energy proposal to bury radioactive waste deep in the bedrock of the Penokees.For a full long day Republican leaders,Democrats,church leaders and business leaders and common folk told the DOE loudly and strongly in one voice....NO NO NO....

We will save our water,won;t you please help.

One can not blow up a mountain and its water 1000' deep and call it responsible,talk about reclamation and mitigation elsewhere and not call this whole process a sin against god,humankind and nature.

Thank you very much,sincerely Jeff Silbert 502 E 4th st Washburn ,Wi. 54891

I am a 40 year resident of the glorious Chequamegon Bay.